# **American Community Survey**

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## **Outline**

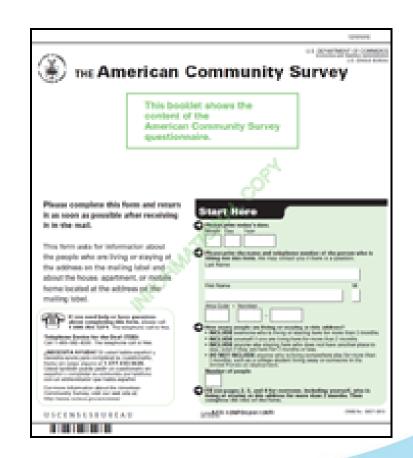
- American Community Survey basics
- Resources for learning more
- Accessing ACS data products



## What is the ACS?

# A large, continuous survey that:

- samples approximately 3.54 million resident addresses per year (about 290,000 per month)
- produces characteristics of population and housing (similar to Census 2000 long form)
- produces estimates for small areas and small population groups





# ACS Estimates Are NOT the 2010 Census Population Counts

- The 2010 Census counts the population to support apportionment and redistricting
- The ACS supplements this information with annually updated estimates on the nation's population and housing characteristics
- The purpose of the ACS is not to count every person in a community or town but rather, to provide a portrait of the community's characteristics



# **Operations**





# **American Community Survey**















# **How Target Uses the ACS**



U.S. Census Bureau You Tube Channel



# Selected Census Geographic Concepts

### **Legal/Administrative Areas**

- Nation
- States
- Counties
- Incorporated Places
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Congressional Districts
- State Legislative Districts
- School Districts

#### **Statistical Areas**

- Regions
- Divisions
- Census Designated Places
- Census County Divisions
- Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA)
- Census Tracts
- Block Groups



## **ACS Period Estimates**

- Describe the <u>average</u> characteristics over a specific period of time
- Contrast with point-in-time estimates
   Describe characteristics as of a specific date, such as April 1, 2010
- Period is 1 year, 3 years, or 5 years data (combined for 12 months, 36 months, or 60 months)



# **ACS Data Releases**

# The ACS annually releases...

## 1-year estimates (2010)

- Areas with populations of 65,000+
  - The Nation
  - Every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
  - Every Congressional District
  - About 25 percent of all counties

## 3-year estimates (2008-2010)

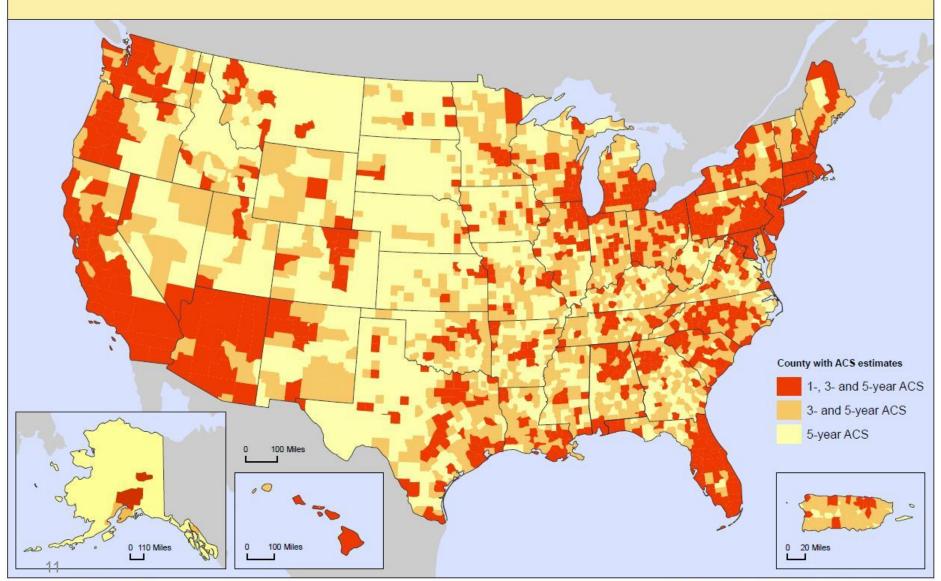
Areas with populations of 20,000+

## 5-year estimates (2006-2010)

All areas



#### 2009 American Community Survey by County in United States



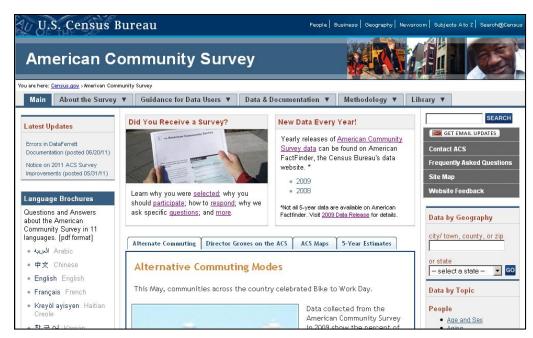
## **New for the 2010 Data Releases**

- Data released on New American FactFinder
- Revised 2010 Geography
- 2010 Based Population Controls
- New topics available in 3-year estimates



## Where to Go to Learn More

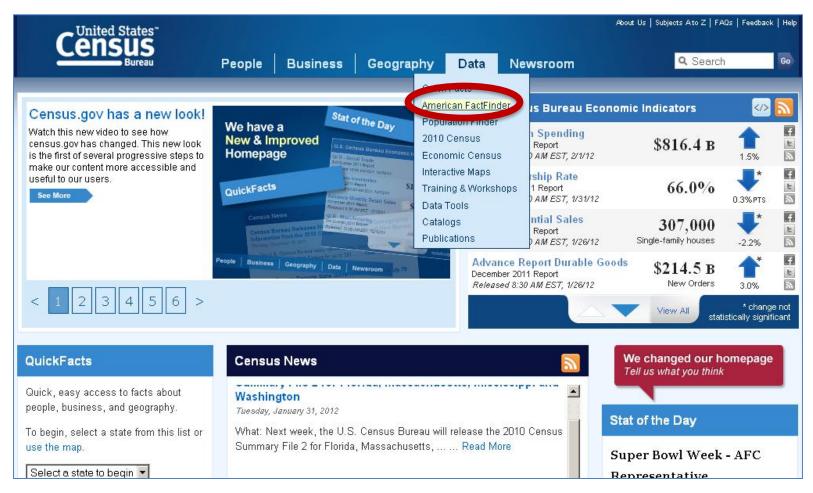
- ACS Main Page
- ACS Compass Products
- Data & Documentation Page
- Design & Methodology Report



www.census.gov/acs



## **How to Access ACS Data Products**



www.census.gov



#### U.S. Census Bureau





Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

English

SEARCH WHAT WE PROVIDE Your Selections 'Your Selections' is empty Topics (2) Geographies (states,counties,places,...) Population Groups (race,ancestry,...) Industry Codes (NAICS,...) Legacy American FactFinder The following data are available on the legacy American FactFinder System: 2007 Economic Census · 2009 American Community Survey 2009 Population Estimates

Your source for population, housing, economic, and geographic data

**USING FACTFINDER** 









Español



The full set of 2010 ACS products for all areas of 65,000 or more are now available in American FactFinder.

View video tutorials to help you get started using the NEW American FactFinder.

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Enter search term(s) and click 'GO'



topic or table name geography (optional)

for Go

topics O population groups O industries

Or use the options on the left to begin your search

#### News and Notes

GET EMAIL UPDATES

#### Sep 27, 2011

The Census Bureau released new information on same-sex couples from the 2010 Census including the number of married couples and a set of preferred

#### U.S. Population Clock

15:28 UTC (EST+5) Oct 11, 2011 312,401,490

more population clocks

#### Reference Maps

Reference Maps show selected geographic boundaries for an area along with orienting features, such as roads.

United States



#### Address Search



Find Census data by entering a street address.



# **Selected Yearly Products**

#### ACS 1-Year

- Data Profile
- Comparison Profile
- Selected Population Profile
- Ranking Tables
- Subject Tables
- Detailed Tables
- Geographic Comparison Tables
- Public Use Microdata Sample File

#### ACS 3-Year

- Data Profile
- Selected Population Profile
- Subject Tables
- Detailed Tables
- Geographic Comparison Tables
- Public Use Microdata Sample File

#### ACS 5-Year

Data Profile

- Subject Tables
- Detailed Tables
- Geographic Comparison Tables
- Public Use Microdata Sample File



## **Contact Information**

Visit the ACS/PRCS website:

www.census.gov/acs

Contact by telephone:

1-800-923-8282

Submit a question:

https://ask.census.gov

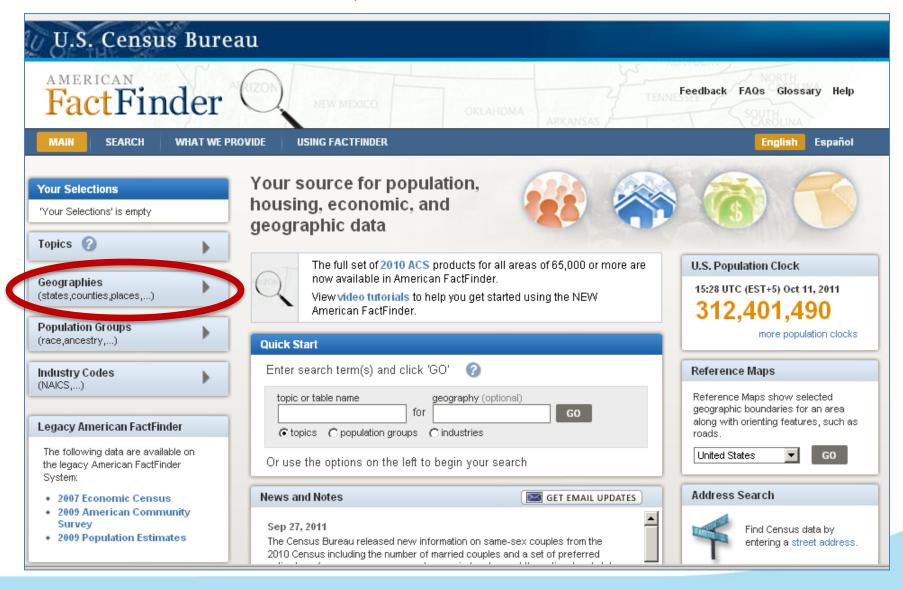


## **Exercise Questions**

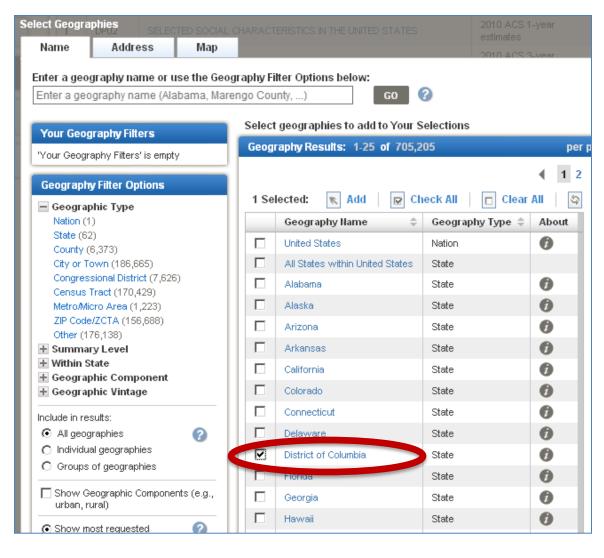
- Go to: <a href="http://www.factfinder2.census.gov">http://www.factfinder2.census.gov</a>. Under "Topics," click on "Program," then select "American Community Survey"
- 1--What is the percentage of people 25 and older in the District of Columbia with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2010?
- 2--What state had the greatest percentage of children below the poverty level in 2010? What was the percentage? Where did Virginia rank? Is Virginia statistically different from Maryland?
- 3--How many occupied housing units in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia lack complete plumbing facilities in 2008-2010? What is the corresponding margin of error?



# **Question 1**

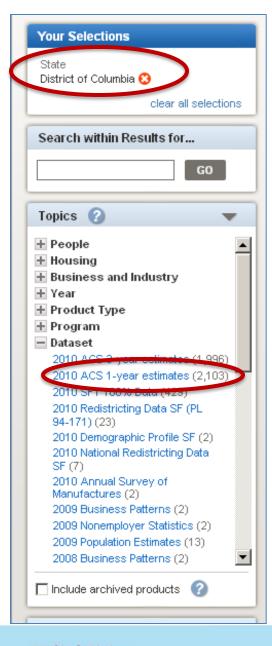






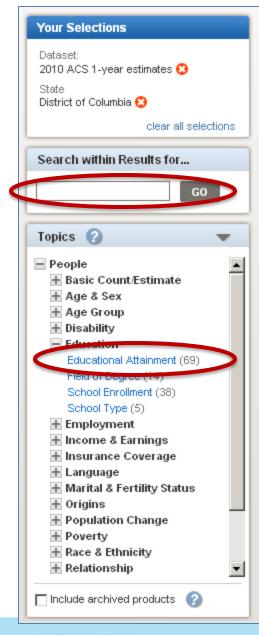
- Check the box next to "District of Columbia" and select "Add"
- Or click on "District of Columbia"
- "State: District of Columbia" will appear in "Your Selections"





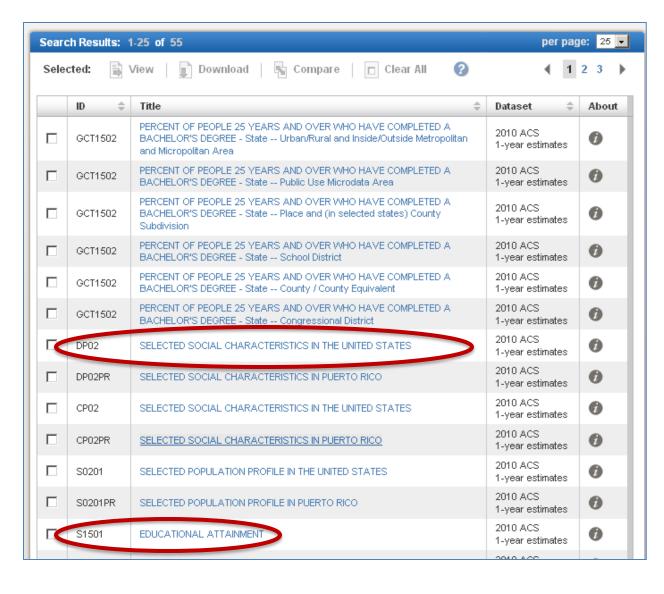
- Under "Dataset," select "2010 ACS 1year estimates"
- "Dataset: 2010 ACS 1-year estimates" will appear in "Your Selections"





- Under "People," click on the "+" icon next to "Education"
- Next, select "Educational Attainment"
- "People: Education: Educational Attainment" will appear in "Your Selections"
- Type "bachelors" in the "Search within Results for..." box, then click "GO"

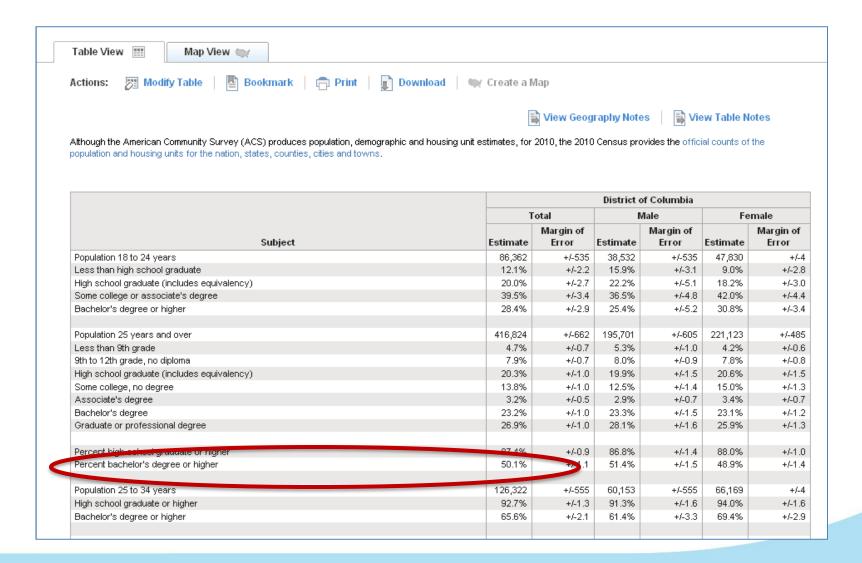




- Click on the title of the table to view
- Or check the box next to your tables of interest and select "View"

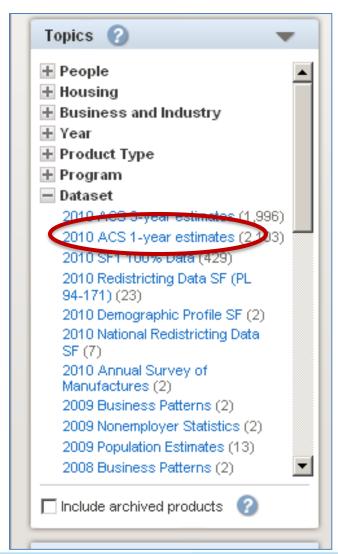


## Table S1501: Educational Attainment



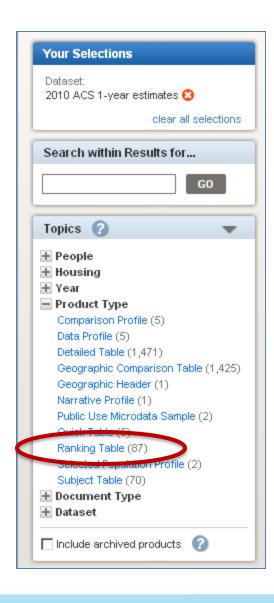


# **Question 2**



- Under "Dataset," select "2010 ACS 1-year estimates"
- "Dataset: 2010
   ACS 1-year
   estimates" will
   appear in "Your
   Selections"





- Under "Product Type," select "Ranking Table"
- "Product Type: Ranking Table" will appear in "Your Selections"
- Type "poverty" into in the "Search within Results for..." box, then click "GO"





- Click on the title of the table to view
- Or check the box next to your tables of interest and select "View"



# R1704: Percent of Children Under 18 Years Below Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months (For Whom Poverty Status is Determined)

Rank	Geographical Area Percent Margin of Error			
MIIIN	United States	21.6	+/-0.2	
4			1, 0.2	
1	Mississippi	32.5	+/-1.5	
2	District of Columbia	30.4	+/-3.8	
3	New Mexico	30.0	+/-1.9	
4	Alabama	27.7	+/-1.1	
5	Arkansas	27.6	+/-1.3	
6	Louisiana	27.3	+/-1.0	
7	Kentucky	26.3	+/-1.1	
8	South Carolina	26.1	+/-1.2	
9	Tennessee	25.7	+/-1.0	
9	Texas	25.7	+/-0.4	
11	West Virginia	25.5	+/-1.8	
12	North Carolina	24.9	+/-0.7	
13	Georgia	24.8	+/-0.7	
14	Oklahoma	24.7	+/-1.1	
15	Arizona	24.4	+/-1.1	
16	Florida	23.5	+/-0.6	
16	Michigan	23.5	+/-0.7	
18	Ohio	23.3	+/-0.6	
19	California	22.0	+/-0.4	
19	Nevada	22.0	+/-1.6	
21	Indiana	21.7	+/-0.8	
22	Oregon	21.6	+/-0.9	
23	New York	21.2	+/-0.5	
24	Missouri	20.9	+/-0.8	
25	Montana	20.1	+/-2.1	
26	Illinois	19.4	+/-0.5	

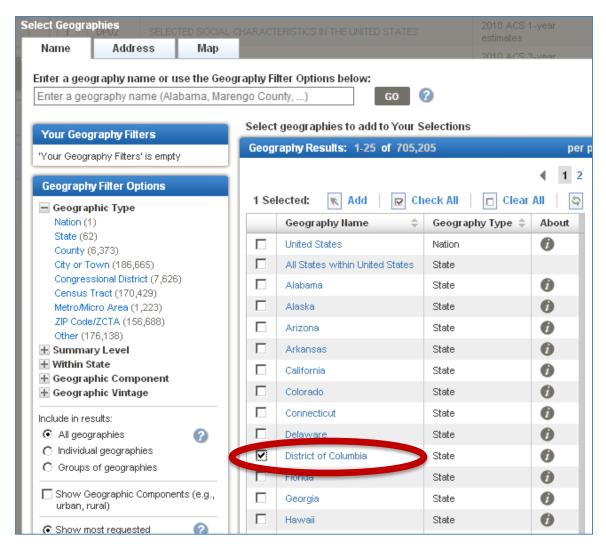
27	Pennsylvania	19.1	+/-0.6
27	Wisconsin	19.1	+/-0.8
29	Idaho	19.0	+/-1.3
29	Rhode Island	19.0	+/-2.2
31	Kansas	18.4	+/-1.3
32	Nebraska	18.2	+/-1.5
32	South Dakota	18.2	+/-2.0
32	Washington	18.2	+/-0.9
35	Delaware	18.1	+/-2.1
36	Maine	17.8	+/-1.5
37	Colorado	17.4	+/-1.0
38	Vermont	16.7	+/-2.1
39	lowa	16.3	+/-1.0
40	North Dakota	16.2	+/-2.0
41	Utah	15.7	+/-1.0
42	Minnesota	15.2	+/-0.7
43	New Jersey	14.5	+/-0.7
43	Virginia	14.5	+/-0.6
45	Massachusetts	14.3	+/-0.7
45	Wyoming	14.3	+/-2.6
47	Havvaii	13.9	+/-1.7
48	Maryland	13.0	+/-0.8
49	Alaska	12.9	+/-1.6
50	Connecticut	12.8	+/-0.9
51	New Hampshire	10.0	+/-1.5



# **Question 3**







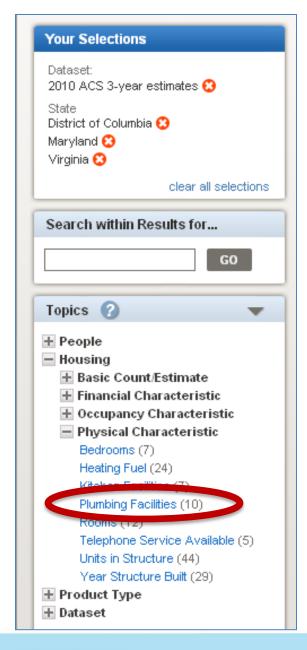
- Check the box next to "District of Columbia," "Maryland," and "Virginia" and select "Add"
- "State: District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia" will appear in "Your Selections"





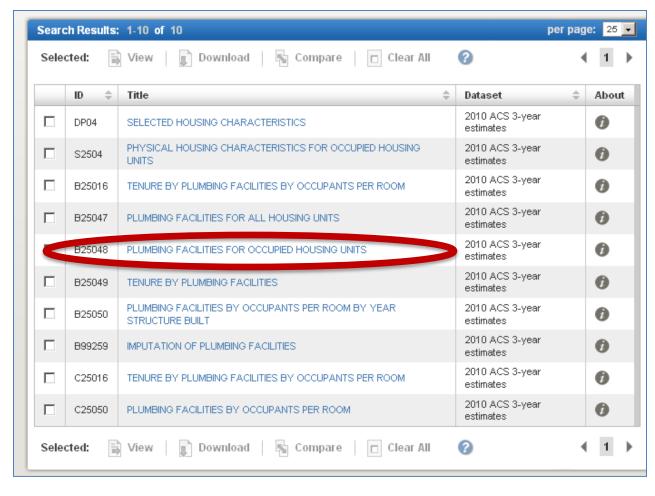
- Under "Dataset," select "2010 ACS 3-year estimates"
- "Dataset: 2010
   ACS 3-year
   estimates" will
   appear in "Your
   Selections"





- Under "Housing," click on the "+" icon next to "Physical Characteristics"
- Next, select "Plumbing Facilities"
- "Housing: Physical Characteristic: Plumbing Facilities" will appear in "Your Selections"





- Click on the title of the table to view
- Or check the box next to your tables of interest and select "View"



# B25048: Plumbing Facilities for Occupied Housing Units

B25048 PLUMBING FACILITIES FOR OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS Universe: Occupied housing units 🕡 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates Table View Map View 📦 Bookmark 🗂 Print 📗 📄 Download Create a Map Actions: Modify Table 🙀 View Geography Notes 🔠 View Table Notes Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, for 2010, the 2010 Census provides the official counts of the population and housing units for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns. For 2008 to 2009, the Population Estimates Program provides intercensal estimates of the population for the nation, states, and counties, District of Columbia Maryland Virginia Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error 256,081 2,122,769 +/-4,746 2,986,092 +/-6,125 Total: +/-2,038 Complete plumbing facilities 254,371 +/-2,075 | 2,113,733 +/-4,882 | 2,970,610 +/-6.183 Lacking complete plumbing facilities 1.710 +/-480 9.036 +/-871 15.482 +/-1.139 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2010 American Community Survey

